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U. S. Department of Agriculture

# Featuring

FLOWERS for the HOME



1948 Fall Catalog

**WILSON BROS.**



Roachdale, Indiana

# Geraniums



For the house as well as for the garden, the Geranium is one of the most useful plants grown. The bright blossoms of Geraniums brighten up many a window in the dead of winter. We grow more than a quarter of a million of these plants each year. Varieties listed below are the best blooming varieties available. Plants are strong and well-rooted, 4 to 8 inches tall. They are shipped to you with soil on roots. Some may show small buds or bloom when you receive them; others will be in bud shortly afterwards.

**Varieties are arranged in color class from dark to light shades.**

**Better Times**—Large American Beauty red flowers.

**Ruby**—Ruby red flowers on long stems.

**Pride of Camden**—Dark red; free flowering.

**Lady Jane**—Lovely dark red shading to cerise; large, sturdy plant.

**Radio Red**—Brilliant red; free-flowering.

**Red Fiat**—Bright scarlet flowers on a sturdy plant.

**Olympic Red**—Scarlet flowers on a sturdy, compact plant.

**Sensation**—Scarlet petals are tinged with white on lower side.

**Pink Abundance**—Very large, deep salmon-rose flowers.

**Pink Fiat**—Dark salmon pink flowers become almost red in the heat of summer.

**Landry**—Dazzling dark salmon; heavily zoned foliage.

**Pink Sensation**—The Sensation Geranium with very double, salmon-pink flowers.

**Salmon Ideal**—Deep salmon pink; beautiful foliage.

**Picardy**—Sport of Salmon Ideal; clear salmon-pink.

**Mrs. Lawrence**—Dwarf free-flowering plant; light salmon-pink flowers.

**Buchner**—Very free-flowering, white Geranium.

**15c each; 14 for \$2.00; 100 for \$14.00**

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## SCENTED GERANIUMS

Very fragrant foliage. Our collection of varieties includes Lemon, Rose, Oak and Balm. State your preference.

**15c each; 14 for \$2.00**



## *Enchantress Supreme*

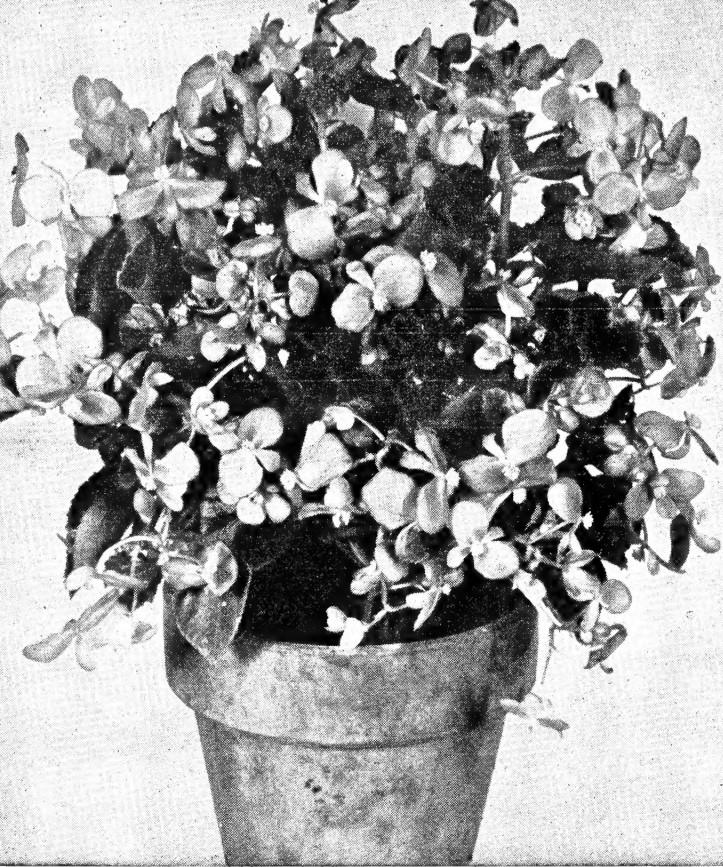
A view of Enchantress Supreme Geraniums in the greenhouse of the originator is pictured above. Note the large bloom stalks and free-flowering habit. The large double flowers are produced the year round, making it one of the best varieties for a house plant. A sport of Pink Fiat, Enchantress Supreme was introduced by Wilson Bros. in the spring of 1948. This lovely, light salmon-pink Geranium has been widely acclaimed by the public.

**25c each; 12 for \$2.50; 100 for \$20.00**

### **GERANIUMS—PELARGONIUMS** by Helen Van Pelt Wilson

The only modern book published on Geraniums, it was written especially for the home gardener and hobbyist. Many interesting pages are devoted to the culture and use of the Geranium both indoors and outdoors, from New England to California. Over 300 varieties are listed and described, many of them illustrated on the thirty pages of color and line drawings.

**\$2.75 each, postpaid.**



## Begonias

Begonias are found in many different species and varieties. Our limited space permits us to grow only a few—those which are most satisfactory for the home.

### WAX BEGONIAS

As Wax Begonias are everblooming, they make very pretty pot plants for the home during the winter. The Double Begonias are free-blooming, covered with little ball-shaped flowers.

### DOUBLE WAX BEGONIAS

Geneva Red—Deep red.  
Geneva Pink—Deep pink.  
Geneva White—Pure white.  
Snowblush—Delicate blush pink.

50c each; 6 for \$2.50

### SINGLE WAX BEGONIAS

Adeline—Pink flowers; dwarf, compact plant.

Ball Deep Rose—Deep rose pink; dwarf, compact plant.

Ball White—A dwarf, compact, free-blooming white Begonia.

Luminosa Compacta—Bright scarlet red; extra dwarf, free-flowering.

Indian Maid—Deep, lustrous bronze foliage with contrasting scarlet flowers.  
Grows taller than above varieties.

Small plants, in bloom, 20c each; 3 for 50c; 10 for \$1.50

Larger plants, covered with bloom, 35c each; 3 for \$1.00

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### BEEFSTEAK BEGONIA

The thick, almost round leaves of the Beefsteak Begonia are glossy green above and deep red below, and have white whiskers growing around the margins. This plant is easily grown; flowers are pink.

40c each; 6 for \$2.00

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### STRAWBERRY BEGONIA

(*Saxifraga sarmentosa*)

Although it is neither a Strawberry, Begonia, nor a Geranium, this plant is also known as the Strawberry Geranium and Mother-of-Thousands. It produces many runners in the same manner as the Strawberry, each runner carrying one or more plantlets. Leaves are green above, red below. Although not completely hardy, the Strawberry Begonia will stand a mild winter.

15c each; 6 for 75c

## Coleus



Although it takes the bright sun of summer to bring out the best color of the Coleus, or "Foliage Plant", the amazing color of the leaves of this plant will brighten up any sunny window. For best results, the temperature should not fall below 60° at night. Our Coleus varieties were selected from the brightest colors available and we now have a large assortment of excellent colors of the sturdy, pot-grown plants.

**Our assortment of colors: 10c each; 12 for \$1.00**

**Assortment of 12 plants, no 2 alike: \$1.25**

## Velvet Plant

The leaves of the Velvet Plant are densely covered with violet or purple hairs, giving it a remarkable velvety appearance. It should be kept moist, in a sunny window.



**35c each; 3 for \$1.00**



## Shrimp Plant

This unusual plant gets its name from the resemblance of the inflorescence to the shape of a large Shrimp. Originating beneath long-lasting reddish-brown bracts, the flowers are white, spotted with purple. Succeeds best in a sunny location.

**25c each; 6 for \$1.25**

## Pick-a-Back Plant

This reminds you of the jingle  
"Big fleas have little fleas upon their backs to bite 'em.  
Little fleas have lesser fleas, and so on, ad infinitum."

Little plants develop at the tip of the petioles, and these will produce smaller plants, which in turn produce others, etc. The foliage is fresh and attractive.

**25c each; 6 for \$1.25**



## ALL ABOUT HOUSE PLANTS by Montague Free.

The most complete book on house plants ever published. It offers selections of plants for all conditions with complete cultural instructions. It is lavishly illustrated with 17 pages of full-color plates, fifty half-tones and fifty pen and ink drawings. Learn how to make miniature gardens, terrariums, and Wardian cases. Get expert advice on the plants you are growing in your home.

**\$3.50 each, postpaid**

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## Ferns

Favorite house plants, these Ferns may be grown to extremely large specimens in two or three years. As they are heavy feeders, they like a soil rich in humus.

**Boston Compacta**—The old Boston Fern in an improved, compact form.

**Whitmani**—Mixture of Boston and lace-like fronds on the same plant, the lace fronds usually in predominance.



**35c each; 6 for \$1.75**

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**Plumosus**



**Sprengeri**

## Asparagus Ferns

These plants not only make a nice pot plant, but the foliage is used extensively as "green" filler in arrangements of cut flowers. Rich soil and plenty of water is required to grow Asparagus Ferns.

**Lace-fern (Asparagus plumosus)**—This is the fine, feathery fern seen in most professional floral arrangements.

**Emerald-feather (Asparagus sprengeri)**—Excellent pot plants can be grown from this fern. The long shoots arch over and may entirely hide the pot.

**20c each; 6 for \$1.00**

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## Peperomia

This genus is composed of many species; however, only a few are under cultivation. As they require moist air, they are often used in terrariums. They will grow very well in an open room, providing they do not receive the direct rays of the sun.

**Peperomia obtusifolia**—Glossy green leaves on erect or semi-trailing stems make this Peperomia a favorite for dish garden and terrarium.



**Peperomia  
obtusifolia**

**Watermelon Begonia (Peperomia sandersi)**—This plant has absolutely no connection with either the Watermelon or the Begonia. Leaves are thick and heart-shaped with silver stripes running between the veins.

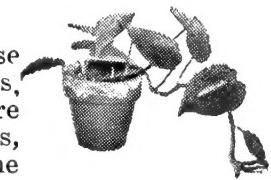
**25c each; 6 for \$1.25**

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## Heart-Leaf Philodendron

(*Philodendron cordatum*)

One of the best house plants grown, not only because of its long graceful vines, with glossy heart-shaped leaves, but because it is very easily grown. Needing little care and little sunlight, it is used extensively in planter lamps, for framing windows and arches, or for any purpose one might use a vine in the house.



**30c each; 6 for \$1.50**

## Nephthytis

Arrowhead or heart shaped leaves give this slender climbing vine a distinctive appearance. It is adaptable to various conditions, and, therefore, is quite easily grown. It will support itself on a bark support by means of aerial rootlets.



**25c each; 6 for \$1.25**

## Pothos Aureus

This plant is sometimes called the Variegated Philodendron, as it is a vine with heart-shaped leaves similar to those of the Heart-leaf Philodendron. The leaves of *Pothos aureus*, however, are irregularly blotched with cream or yellow, which is more marked if the plant receives 3 or 4 hours of sunshine daily.



**25c each; 6 for \$1.25**

## Grape Ivy

(*Cissus rhombifolia*)

This is one of the toughest vines for the house, especially in those homes in which the air is quite hot and dry. Three glossy, toothed and pointed leaflets make up the leaves. Grape Ivy is used equally well as a drooper or a climber.



**20c each; 6 for \$1.00**



## BULBS FROM HOLLAND

Holland produces the highest quality Tulip, Hyacinth, Daffodil and Crocus bulbs, and we are prepared to offer you for Fall planting some of the choice varieties. Bulbs listed below are all top size for planting out and will produce quality flowers next spring. We have available three leaflets on Holland Bulbs: (1) Holland Wishes You A Lovlier Spring, (2) A Guide To Successful Bulb

Planting, and (3) Indoor Beauty With Holland Bulbs. As long as our supply lasts, they are yours for the asking. Bulbs are ready for shipment September 15.

### TULIPS

The most popular of the Holland Bulbs is the Tulip. It is excellent for cutting, as well as brightening up the flower garden in early spring with a wide range of beautiful colors. Varieties below were selected because of the range of colors and blooming season.

**Bartigon**—A Giant Darwin, carmine red; good forcer.

**All Bright**—A brilliant red sport of Bartigon; good forcer.

**Pride of Zwanenburg**—A beautiful, soft salmon rose; Giant Darwin.

**Pride of Haarlem**—Large flowered Giant Darwin Tulip, bright rose color.

**Mrs. John Scheepers**—Cottage, or May-flowering Tulip, with enormous yellow flowers.

**White City**—Pure white Cottage Tulip with yellow stamens.

**Wm. Copeland**—Giant Darwin Tulip of bright lavender; good forcer.

**The Black Tulip**—Very large, dark maroon flower; Giant Darwin.

**Elmus**—Red with white edges; large flower; good forcer; Triumph or Early Darwin.

**Dillenburg**—A Breeder Tulip of unusual brown color with lighter edges.

**\$1.25 per dozen; \$9.00 per 100**

### CROCUS

The Crocus heralds the coming of Spring, as it is one of the first flowers to bloom in March. It is excellent for use in the lawn, in flower borders, on the slopes of terraces, or along the edges of walks. We have the following colors: Yellow, Blue, Purple, White, and Striped.

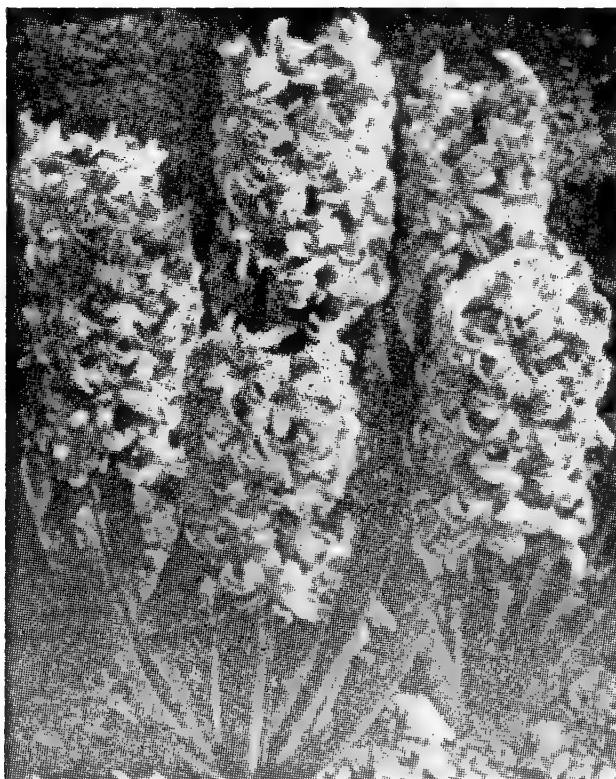
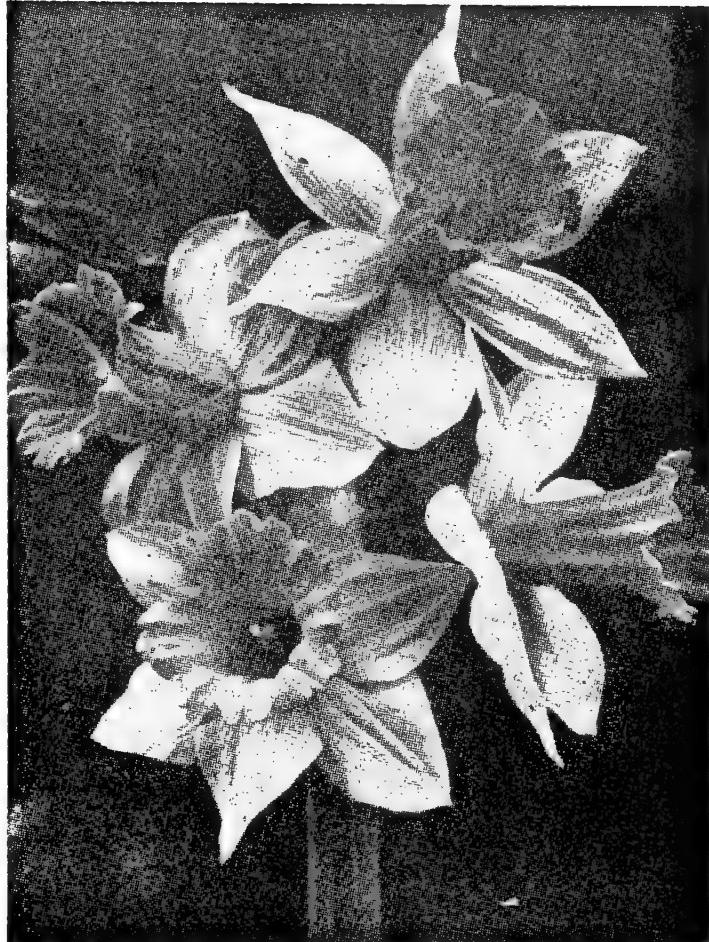
**50c per dozen;  
100 for \$3.50**



## **DAFFODILS**

Daffodils bloom early and last a long time. We are offering for this Fall the variety which has proven most popular with gardeners throughout the United States — King Alfred. This is a giant flowered Daffodil, a rich golden yellow throughout, the trumpet being deeply frilled and recurved.

**12 for \$1.35**



## **HYACINTHS**

Easily grown, producing large spikes of extremely fragrant flowers. Can be forced so that you will have the fragrant blossoms in the house in the dead of winter.

**L'Innocence**—Compact; pure white.

**Pink Pearl**—Light rose-pink.

**Bismark**—Light sky-blue.

**30c each; 3 for 80c;  
12 for \$2.75**

## English Ivies

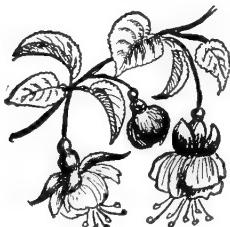
**Glacier Ivy**—It's NEW! ! ! It's different! ! The small leaves are variegated green and white. Growth is somewhat like the Self-Branching Ivy described below.

**40c each; 6 for \$2.00**



**Hahn's Self-Branching Ivy**—Small glossy green leaves, slow-growing, somewhat hardy.

**20c each; 3 for 50c; 10 for \$1.50**



## Fuchsia

The pendulous, bell-shaped flowers of the Fuchsia exhibit a true beauty not shown in any other plant. They should be kept cool during November and December, with little water. Raise the temperature and start watering in January and the buds will soon appear.

**Little Beauty**—Dwarf, free-blooming plant; petals are lavender-blue, sepals are pink.

**Black Prince**—Strong plant; petals are cerise, sepals are pink.

**15 c each; 12 for \$1.50**



## Lantana

Given a good spot in a sunny window the Lantana will provide an abundance of color all winter long. It thrives on heat and sunshine.

**Radiation**—Light orange flowers get deeper and richer in color with age.

**Schulz**—Same color as Radiation; grows a little taller.

**Sensation**—Cream colored flowers turn lavender or pink.

**Southern**—Dwarf; large cream colored flowers deepening as they grow older.

**Dwarf Beauty**—Small yellow blooms deepening to a magenta red.

**Alba perfecta**—Pure white.

**Weeping**—Beautiful lavender flowers produced on long, trailing branches; free-blooming.

**15c each; 6 for 75c**



## Patience Plant

(*Impatiens sultani*)

From its exceptionally free-blooming habit when placed in a sunny window in the wintertime, the Patience Plant is also called by another name—Daily Bloomer. Or, it often is known by its specific name—Sultani. Flowers vary in color from pink to scarlet and purplish.

**15c each; 6 for 75c**



# Cacti and Succulents

This interesting group of plants is grown in thousands of different forms and includes many of the most useful and popular plants found in the home. They thrive under unusual conditions of drought and dryness, and many (Cacti particularly) retain their small size through many months. Thus they maintain the original uniformity with which they were planted. Because of their uniqueness, the plants of this unusual group are also widely used in individual plantings. We have over 50 different varieties of Cacti and Succulents. Please order by name of collection.

## WESTERN SUNSET

A group of all different Succulents, adaptable to almost any location in the house. They grow well in a sunny location or in a place where little sunlight is available.

**12 Succulents, no 2 alike  
\$1.50**

## DEVIL'S DELIGHT

A group of Cacti of all different shapes and forms, excellent for the sunny window in a hot, dry room.

**12 Cacti, no 2 alike, \$2.50**

## DESERT FANTASY

An especially hardy group of plants, both Cacti and Succulents, which are adaptable to the atmosphere of the home. As we will send you no two alike, this collection makes a very nice group of plants for your dish garden or kitchen window.

**12 plants, all different, \$2.00**

## **ORDER CONTINUED**

## **SECOND CHOICE**

**If No Substitution Instructions Are Given We Will Refund On Any Items We Are Unable To Supply.**

**GUARANTEE—WE GUARANTEE SATISFACTION.** IF YOUR ORDER ARRIVES IN POOR CONDITION, OR IF YOU ARE NOT PLEASED WITH IT, LET US KNOW AND WE WILL REPLACE IT FREE OF CHARGE, OR REFUND YOUR MONEY.

Check here for additional Order Blanks.

Names and addresses of others who would like to receive our catalog.



# PLANT MARVEL

"Food as you water"

PLANT MARVEL is a highly concentrated, perfectly balanced plant food for your house plants, flower beds and borders, roses, vines and flowering shrubs. We use it in our greenhouse and are pleased to recommend it to you. Satisfaction guaranteed or your money back.

PRICE—Trial size pkg. (makes 15 gals.) 25c  
1-lb. can (makes 250 gals.) ..... \$1.00

# Floraglow

A NEW DISCOVERY FOR POTTED PLANTS

Makes 'Em Glow and Grow

Works three ways: (1) Gives foliage a brilliant, lasting luster; (2) Makes plants grow; (3) Instantly eliminates dust and dirt from leaves (also repels insects).

Applied by spraying or by rubbing on with soft wadding, FLORAGLOW makes plants grow bigger—faster. Amazing stimulation and new beauty.

Price—Large 6-oz. bottle, 50c; sprayer top for 6-oz. bottle, 18c; 2 bottles and sprayer top, \$1.00; 1-qt. size, \$1.76; quart size sprayer top, 20c.



## NOW we have it!

This new "Miracle Discovery" will help you get bigger and better plants! Look at these important advantages:

- ✓ More seeds germinate.
- ✓ Stored bulbs and roots remain firm and plump.
- ✓ Lightens heavy soil.
- ✓ Less watering required.
- ✓ Gives body to sandy soil.
- ✓ Unequalled as a mulch.



Now it's available! You can get and use Terra-Lite brand vermiculite . . . the amazing growing medium you've been reading about in leading magazines. Terra-Lite will help you, by helping your flowers and plants in every stage of their development! What's more, with Terra-Lite, less watering is needed, less care required! You can even use Terra-Lite over and over! Send in your order for this new Revolutionary Plant aid today!

2-bushel bag ..... \$2.05  
½-bushel bag ..... 90c  
4-quart bag ..... 55c

(prepaid up to 1,000 miles)  
(prepaid up to 1,000 miles)  
(prepaid up to 1,000 miles)



## Saintpaulias

The African Violet has become one of the choice house plants, principally because of its compact growth and ever-blooming habit. We offer you young plants—most of them in bud or bloom. As they will be shipped to you in the soil in which they were grown, there will be no chance of disturbing the roots.

**DOUBLE DUCHESS**—Double purple flowers prolifically produced on a low-growing plant.

**RED BICOLOR**—Two upper petals intense red-violet, lower three are pale orchid pink.

**SKY BLUE**—Almost gray, blue-lavender flowers.

**DUPONT BLUE**—Extra large, light violet flowers.

**ORCHID GIRL**—Light red-violet flowers.

**BLUE BOY SUPREME**—Extra large, deep blue-violet flowers.

**\$1.25 each, or one plant of each above varieties for \$6.25**

**PURPLE PRINCE**—Rich, clear purple flowers on free-flowering plant.

**SAPPHIRE**—Light blue-violet flowers; flat, shiny leaves.

**TOPAZ**—Similar to sapphire except darker flowers, stems, leaves and petioles.

**COMMODORE**—Large reddish-purple flowers; slick pointed leaves.

**ORCHID BEAUTY**—Pale lavender pink flowers on an exceptionally fine plant.

**\$1.00 each, or one plant of each variety for \$4.25**

**BLUE GIRL**—Large, deep blue-violet flowers; scalloped leaves may show considerable variegation. Patented.

**PINK BEAUTY**—The best true pink Saintpaulia; large flowers. Patented.

**WHITE LADY**—Glistening white flowers twisting and crowding among the leaves. Patented.

**BLUSHING MAIDEN**—Opaque white flowers with faint pink around the center.

**NEPTUNE**—Blue-violet flowers on low, flat plant.

**MENTOR BOY**—Large violet-purple flowers with long, dark red stems.

**BLUE BIRD**—Long, tapered petals of medium blue-violet.

**IONANTHA**—Medium-sized blue-lavender flowers; leaves with long petioles.

**75c each, or one plant of each variety for \$5.00**

**SPECIAL**—One plant of each of 19 varieties—\$14.00

### THE AFRICAN VIOLET by Helen Van Pelt Wilson

The first book on the African Violet will thrill all growers of this very popular house plant. Contains 26 drawings, 68 detailed descriptions of varieties, and 175 listings. It includes information on growing from seed, hybridizing, insect and disease control, and a monthly calendar, in addition to complete culture and classification of varieties. Whether you have caught the "fever" and are a confirmed African Violet addict, or merely love to have a blooming plant in your window, you will be fascinated by this book.

**\$2.50 each, postpaid.**